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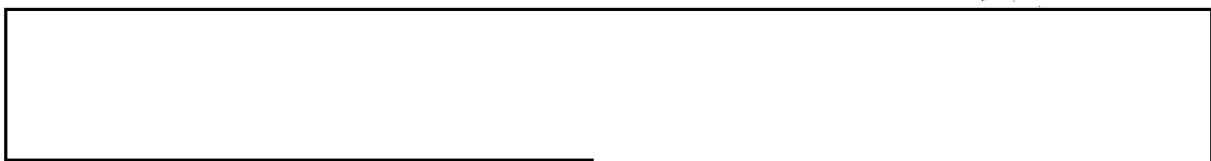
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
9 April 1955

State Dept. review completed

TO : Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
SUBJECT: Bolivian President Fears Revolution Will Begin  
on 9 April

President Paz and Foreign Minister Guevara told Ambassador Drew on 7 April that the Bolivian government had "reliable information" of a "rightist" plot to overthrow the government. The revolution was scheduled to begin on 9 April with the assassination of President Paz during the celebration of the rise to power of Paz's Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR) in 1952. The Bolivian officials told the ambassador that Vice president Siles had been approached twice to lead the revolt, but that he had refused. They also stated that certain Bolivian army officers were involved, that two prospective opposition successors to President Paz were now in the capital, and that the tin baron Hochschild--whose mines were expropriated by the Paz government--is in Lima, Peru "distributing largesse" to Bolivian exiles.

There has been no other report of any dissension among the officers of the Bolivian armed forces, and they are thought to be loyal to President Paz and the MNR.



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Thus far the unifying influence of President Paz and the feeling that each wing of the MNR needs the other has caused the two factions to accept compromise solutions to most issues. There is some dissatisfaction over the government's 24 March decree which hiked wages from 40% to 75% whereas labor was demanding 100%.

The assassination of President Paz is an ever present

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possibility. Should this occur, a power struggle between the two wings of the MNR can be expected and widespread disorders would probably break out.

HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON  
Assistant Director  
Current Intelligence



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